

Missouri State Archives

Finding Aid [998.124]

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

James T. Blair, Sr. Family Bible

Abstract: This is a bible that belonged to James T. Blair, Sr., whose son James T. Blair, Jr. became Governor of Missouri.

Extent: 1 volume

Physical Description: Book

Location: Missouri State Archives; Stacks

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Alternative Formats: PDF

Access Restrictions: None

Publication Restrictions: None

Preferred Citation: Record of [description such as marriage, birth or death], [date]; *James T. Blair, Sr. Family Bible* Record Group 998.124; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

Acquisition Information: Gift; Accession #1986-0062

Processing Information: Processing completed by EW on 12/15/2016. Updated by EW on 03/23/2021.

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

James Blair, Sr. (1871-1944) was an attorney from DeKalb County, Missouri. He married Grace Emma Ray in 1901 and the couple had five children together. The eldest child was James T. Blair, Jr. who grew up to become Governor of Missouri. The elder Blair became a Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court in 1915 and served through 1924.

Blair's biography from the 1923-1924 Blue Book pp. 115 & 117 reads:

“James T. Blair, Maysville (Democrat). – Born at Loudon, Tenn., November 11, 1871. He came to Missouri May 14, 1881. Educated in the public schools at Osborn, DeKalb county, and at Cumberland University, where he received the degree of A. B. in 1892 and of L.L. B. in 1895. He was president of Obion College in 1895 and 1896. He was married at Maysville June 19, 1901, to Miss Grace E. Ray. From 1903 to 1908 he resided at Springfield, Mo. He represented DeKalb county in the Legislature, 1899-1901. He was appointed and served as a member of the revision committee to revise the statutes of 1899, and served as Assistant Attorney-General from January 11, 1909, to April 11, 1911. He was appointed by the Supreme Court a member of the bipartisan commission created by the Forty-sixth General Assembly to aid the Supreme Court, which appointment he resigned when elected Judge of Supreme Court in 1914 for a term of ten years, expiring December 31, 1924.”

See Finding Aid 3.44 for biographical information on James Blair, Jr.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Related Collections

RG005 Secretary of State Publications Division Portrait Collection
RG3.44 James Thomas Blair, Jr., 1957-1961
RG600 Missouri Supreme Court

Additional External Resources

The Missouri History Museum in St. Louis has a collection [#A2071 James Blair Genealogy, 1903](#).

The State Historical Society of Missouri in Columbia maintains manuscript collection [#C2271 James Thomas Blair, Jr. Papers](#).

BLAIR BIBLE, 1882-1972

Arrangement: N/a

Scope and Content

This is a bible belonging to the family of James T. Blair, Sr. and his wife Grace (Ray) Blair. Family information is sandwiched about 2/3 of the way through the book and comes to a total of four pages.

A color PDF of the family pages is on Manuscript DVD #1 in the Reference Room.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
	9	none	Blair family bible	1882-1972

A summary of the records appears below:

P.1 MARRIAGE

For Grace Ray of Maysville, MO and James Thomas Blair of Maysville, MO performed at Mary Cook Ray's home on June 9, 1901

P.2 BIRTHS

James Thomas Ingram McLeod Blair, born March 15th 1902, Saturday

Samuel Cook Blair, born September 11th 1904, Sunday

Grace Mary Blair, born Nov. 29th (Thanksgiving Day) 1906, Thursday

Margaret Ray Blair, born April 19, 1909, Monday

William Clark Blair, born March 17, 1916, St. Patrick's Day

P.3 MARRIAGE etc.

Repeats the marriage date from p. 1

Grace Blair born April 29, 1882 near Gower, MO, father Joshua Ray, mother Mary Cook

P. 4 DEATHS

James Thomas Blair died April 12th at Springfield, MO

James T. Blair Jr. died July 13, 1962 in Jefferson City

William C. Blair died May 21st '72 in Jefferson City